

Sharon Hannon
155 Windermere Avenue
Ellington, CT 06029
HB 5537

March 13, 2014

Dear CT PHC Testimony,

Dear Senator Gerratana, Representative Johnson, and esteemed members of the Public Health Committee:

I write to ask you to strongly support and vote in the affirmative to add bill language for the modernization of the CT Naturopathic physician scope of practice to HB 5537. The language needs to be attached to this bill so it can come before the Public Health Committee for consideration. This Naturopathic scope of practice law is 90 years old and has not kept pace with the significant advances in education and training of Naturopathic doctors in the ensuing decades.

I am tired of going to 3 different doctors. If the ND's were allowed their "true" training level/ scope of practice in the state of CT I would only have to see the ND for primary care.

I see my naturopathic doctor in Connecticut who is also licensed in other states that extend prescriptive authority to naturopathic physicians. Because of the limited scope of practice in Connecticut my naturopath must send me to a medical doctor who writes the prescriptions that the naturopath develops in my treatment plan. CT Naturopathic doctors should be given the same prescriptive authority similar to other states like Arizona, Vermont, and New Hampshire.

Expanding the scope of practice will improve healthcare access for the people of Connecticut.

Expanding the scope of practice will Improve coordination of care.

Expanding the scope of practice will meet primary care needs.

Expanding the scope of practice will enhance education and training for medical student at the University of Bridgeport College of Naturopathic Medicine.

The expansion is consistent with ND scopes across states, particularly New England states.

There will be significant cost and time savings to patients and 3rd party payers.

Thank you for your support and consideration.

Sincerely,
Sharon Hannon